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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Saratov Oblast)

DATE DISTR. 12 March 1952

SUBJECT Tank Repair Plant in Saratov

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1. The tank repair plant in Saratov (51°34'N/46°02'E), Saratov Oblast, was located 5 km west of the town between the railroad line and the road to Moscow. South of plant, on the opposite side of the road, was a large workmens settlement. A railroad track entered the plant from the north. The plant repair plant was put into operation only shortly before or during World War II.
2. The area of the plant extended about 800 meters measured from east to west and 1,000 to 1,200 meters from north to south. On the road was a large four-story building, about 30x120 meters. Behind this building, on the western half of the area, were 10 to 12 workshops. All these buildings were 30x30 meters, and were built of white cement and slag stones. Current was supplied by the Saratov power station over a high-voltage line running along the road.
3. New tanks were not built there, only repairs were made. Tank parts or parts of tank hulls and engine parts were allegedly manufactured in the foundry. The tanks to be repaired were standing on the premises of the plant. The tanks needing repair arrived on freight trains. In addition, every other month, complete tank units, consisting, as a rule, of 30 T-34 and JS tanks, arrived by rail, and their repair took about 6 to 10 weeks. The maximum daily capacity was estimated at one tank overhauled and four or five tanks repaired. An estimated 1,200 Soviets and 300 PWs were employed at the plant. Work was done in one shift of 8 to 10 hours.

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1 Annex: Location Sketch of Tank Repair Plant in Saratov.

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